

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /150 W

----- 050876

R 060839Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7491

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4483

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF MARR NO UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET-NORWEGIAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST

REF: OSLO 4481 (NOTAL)

1. DURING HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW IN MID-NOVEMBER (REFTEL *
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS VIBE DISCUSSED
THE MIDDLE EAST AT SOME LENGTH WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
ZEMSKOV. VIBE TOLD DCM HE RECEIVED NO SATISFACTION WITH ZEMSKOV
(NOR DID FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND LATER FROM UN SECRETARY
GENERAL WALDHEIM) WHEN HE RAISED THE VERY SENSITIVE QUESTION
IN NORWAY OF FAILURE TO BE INVITED TO SEND PEACE-KEEPING FORCES TO
THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. ZEMSKOV WAS EXTREMELY HARSH IN HIS REMARKS ABOUT ISRAEL,
AND HE CHARGED THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT DONE ENOUGH TO INFLUENCE
TEL AVIV. HE ARGUED, IN A FAMILIAR VEIN, THAT ISRAEL'S
POLICY WAS SENSELESS FROM A NATIONAL STANDPOINT, THAT IT
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LACKED ANY PERSPECTIVE, AND THAT THE RECENT FIGHTING HAD

INDICATED THAT A NEW CLASH COULD BE DISASTROUS FOR ISRAEL. ZEMSKOV HASTENED TO STRESS THAT THE USSR HAD HELPED ESTABLISH ISRAEL AND FAVORED ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE. HIS REMARKS LED VIBE LATER TO ASK WHETHER THE USSR MIGHT BE PLANNING TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND HE WAS TOLD AMBIGUOUSLY, "I DO NOT THINK SO."

3. VIBE AND ZEMSKOV AGREED THAT UNSC RESOLUTION 242 NEEDED TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN ALL ITS ASPECTS. VIBE FOUND ZEMSKOV INFLEXIBLE, HOWEVER, WHEN HE TRIED TO DISCUSS THE NEED FOR SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE SUCH BOUNDARIES WITH A UN PRESENCE IN AREAS LIKE THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, WITH OR WITHOUT AN ACTUAL RECTIFICATION OF BORDERS. ZEMSKOV KEPT ARGUING THAT THE ONLY WAY FOR ISRAEL TO ENSURE ITS BORDERS WAS TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE PEACE WITH ITS NEIGHBORS; IT COULD NOT HOPE TO ACHIEVE SECURITY THROUGH BORDER RECTIFICATION OR BUFFER ZONES.

4. VIBE SOUGHT TO ELICIT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR NORWAY'S PARTICIPATION IN A UN EMERGENCY FORCE, BUT TO NO AVAIL. HE EXPLAINED OSLO'S DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE BUT COULD NOT ELICIT A REACTION FROM ZEMSKOV. VIBE MENTIONED TO DCM THE TUG-OF-WAR BETWEEN POLAND AND CANADA OVER PARTICIPATION BUT IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS WAS HIS OR ZEMSKOV'S EXPLANATION FOR WHY NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON NORWEGIAN PARTICIPATION. VIBE ALSO REITERATED TO THE DCM NORWAY'S DISAPPOINTMENT AND CONCERN OVER THE IMPLICATIONS THAT IT WAS NOT CHOSEN BECAUSE IT IS A NATO MEMBER.

5. ACCORDING TO VIBE, WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND WAS IN NEW YORK AT THE END OF NOVEMBER, HE DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF NORWAY'S DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE IN UNEF WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. WALDHEIM REPORTEDLY SAID THAT NORWAY HAD BEEN ON THE ORIGINAL LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS, REFERRED TO THE GREAT POWER DIFFERENCES OVER WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE, AND EXPLAINED THAT HE DID NOT SEE HOW HE WAS GOING TO MEET HIS GOAL OF 7,000 MEN WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE COUNTRIES ON WHICH IT HAS HITHERTO BEEN POSSIBLE TO AGREE. WHILE HE DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME WAY MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE FOUND FOR NORWAY TO PARTICIPATE, HE MADE NO PROMISES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE ARE STILL INTERESTED IN LEARNING EXACTLY
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WHAT WAS THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO BLOCKING NORWAY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE UNEF (OSLO 4198) AND THE LIKELIHOOD THAT A WAY MAY BE FOUND TO ENABLE NORWAY TO PARTICIPATE. BYRNE

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